

BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

ALL ABOUT ALLERGY—M. Coleman Harris, M.D., and Norman Shure, M.D. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. (07632), 1969. 368 pages, \$7.95.

This book is intended more for the interested layman or the especially curious patient than for physicians, but should prove of interest to many of the medical profession nevertheless. It explains in considerable detail and a very readable manner most aspects of current theory and practice in a rapidly expanding field of considerable public interest.

Advances in knowledge and delays in the various steps in publication, however, are such that some of the more exciting recent knowledge in the field of allergy is not mentioned, such as the identification of the skin-test antibody as IgE, the dangers of the locked-lung syndrome from excessive use of isoproterenol and similar pocket sprays, and the newer evidence of benefit resulting from injection therapy (suppression of reagin formation and decrease in histamine release).

The pediatric allergist may be disappointed in finding no mention of the tension-fatigue syndrome while less common things such as allergy as a cause of epilepsy are discussed. The environmentalist may object to the acceptance of Dust-Seal spray in place of allergen-proof encasings on mattresses and box springs.

A book as comprehensive as this is certain to have some such disappointments. This volume has fewer than most and in general can be recommended as a readable guide to the layman, medical student, and the general practitioner.

WILLIAM C. DEAMER, M.D.

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STROKE—The Condition and the Patient—John E. Sarno, M.D., Associate Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine, New York University School of Medicine; Director, Outpatient Services, Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, New York University Medical Center, New York City; and Martha Taylor Sarno, M.A., Assistant Professor, Clinical Rehabilitation Medicine, New York University School of Medicine; Director, Speech Pathology Services, Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, New York University Medical Center, New York City. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 330 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. (10036), 1969. 213 pages, \$6.95.

By providing answers to 225 questions which might be asked by the family or close friends of an individual who had suffered a stroke, the authors seek to impart the understanding and guidance we, as good physicians, should give to individual parties concerned. The answers are couched in the simplest of terms and the authors avoid controversy by reminding the reader that each case is different than any other and for particular answers one still must rely on the personal physician. The questions, grouped by chapters, deal with the cause of stroke, its physical consequences, the speech disorders, intellectual and emotional aspects of stroke, rehabilitation, and finally the prognosis. As is to be ex-

pected, the Sarnos find some difficulty in explaining that rehabilitative measures as carried out by numerous disciplines is so important on the one hand, but on the other "the extent of recovery is not dependent upon treatment but on the degree of healing which occurs in the brain. The prince and the pauper have the same chance for recovery." They then state, quite significantly, that "we have known of some families who have been unable for geographic or economic reasons to engage the help of an outsider and who have done a magnificent job of rehabilitation at home using some published materials designed for the purpose (see Appendix) and some ingenious methods of their own design." This last quotation is in connection with the speech disorders associated with stroke.

No aspect of stroke is receiving more attention now than the care of the patient with aphasia and it is noted, quite properly, that "nurses are ideally suited to substitute for their colleagues from other therapies." This again is in connection with the care of patients in remote areas. It is obvious that the Sarnos appreciate the contribution of the volunteer in the care of the stroke patient.

This volume will answer a great many questions for family and friends. Its value to the physician might be to remind him of the anxieties such people have and prompt him to volunteer helpful answers or at least take the time to provide answers when asked to do so. The appearance of the book itself is further evidence of the increasing interest in this third most common cause of death in America. With 2,000,000 post-stroke patients living in the United States, it is anticipated a great many individuals will be interested in this volume.

ROBERT C. COMBS, M.D.

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EVOLUTION AND COMPARATIVE MORPHOLOGY OF THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM—Otto Frederic Kampmeier, Ph.D., M.D., Formerly, Professor and Chairman, Department of Anatomy, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois; and formerly, Chairman, Department of Anatomy, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Ill. (62703), 1969. 620 pages, \$29.50.

Animal studies in the 19th and early 20th centuries in comparative morphology and physiology were in the mainstream of biologic interest. The shift of interest since that time to studies involving animal experimentation and molecular biology developed before knowledge of the lymphatic system could be integrated into a unified body. Accounts of the lymphatic system in textbooks of comparative anatomy and physiology consequently remained meager and promoted the belief that the system is found only in higher vertebrates. The intent of this book is to correct these deficiencies and to collate modern knowledge of the lymphatic system into a coher-

ent body. These ends are authoritatively accomplished as they draw upon the author's life long involvement with this system dating to graduate school in 1909.

Phylogenetic and ontogenetic mechanisms of development of the system are exhaustively treated. Invertebrate phyla are surveyed for the various circulatory devices responsible for water balance and turgor, nutrient utilization, waste disposal, respiration, and defense. Selective influences leading to specialization of the circulatory apparatus and to the vertebrate lymphatic system are treated. The comparative systematics and functions of the lymphatic system in each of the vertebrate classes are examined in depth. The single deficiency that might be noted is the relative lack of attention to the complex structuring of lymphoid tissues that has been gained since 1960 with respect to immune response events.

The book is graced by the author's erudite and impartial spirit, by scholarly familiarity with the history of ideas in this area, and by attention to the fascinating etymology of its terms. The text illustrations are profuse and consistently excellent.

BERNARD J. BRYANT, PH.D.

CURRENT DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT—1970—Henry Brainerd, M.D., William Watt Kerr Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of California School of Medicine, and Chief, University of California Medical Services, San Francisco General Hospital; Marcus A. Krupp, M.D., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, and Director, Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation; Milton J. Chatton, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, California Geriatric Consultant, and Research Associate, Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation; and Sheldon Margen, M.D., Professor of Human Nutrition, Department of Nutritional Science, University of California, Berkeley, and Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, and Associate Authors. Lange Medical Publications, Drawer L, Los Altos, Ca. (94022). 1970. 884 pages, \$11.00.

This nicely bound, 884-page desk reference covering medical problems seen in all phases of practice can be recommended without reservation to young and old in the pursuit of medical knowledge. The 34 contributing authors all treat assigned subjects thoroughly but concisely, and up-to-date references follow each section for further study by the critical reader.

The authors disclaim intent to provide a textbook of medicine, but each of the 30 sections briefly covers situations seen in all fields of medical practice and all are prefaced by short, pertinent essentials of diagnosis. Differential diagnoses are often included and the prognosis is given where important. Tables, diagrams and illustrations are clearly reproduced, refreshingly brief, and easily remembered. The small sharp type-style is conducive to containing this compact volume within wieldy limits.

The casual or random reader will be pleased to find a table of abbreviations for the modern custom of alphabetical medical shorthand.

Newer methods of modalities of treatment are current. For example: L-DOPA, recently studied and considered for treatment of parkinsonism is described in excellent detail. The authors have also outlined older, time-proven agents of therapy.

Medical genetics is especially well done in the section by Margaret S. Kosek, beginning with a short resumé of current knowledge and extending through complex and complicated system tables. She also incorporates a treatise on cytogenetics, with exceptional diagrams and illustrations.

In summary, I enjoyed reading *Current Diagnosis and Treatment—1970*; and believe it a valuable addition to any medical reference library.

JAMES E. REEVES, M.D.

DISEASES OF THE SKIN IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS—A COLOR ATLAS—G. W. Korting, M.D., Director, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital, Mainz, Germany. American Edition Translated and Adapted by William Curth, M.D., Associate in Dermatology (Retired), College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; Assistant Clinical Professor, New York Medical College; and Helen Ollendorff Curth, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology (Retired), Special Lecturer in Dermatology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa., (19105). 233 pages, \$21.00.

Nearly 400 beautiful illustrations, all but a few in excellent color, make this a very attractive and desirable book. A surprising amount of highly sophisticated information is contained in the tersely written text. There is no bibliography, but the names of authors principally connected with the conditions described are used freely and authoritatively. Professor Korting is Director, Department of Dermatology at the University Hospital in Mainz, Germany, and the American edition is translated, with appropriate editorial comments, by William and Helen Ollendorff Curth, both well known and highly respected dermatologists. The need for a pediatric atlas of dermatology is described in the preface by Professor Korting as great dermatologic differences between the child and the adult. These include the longer life of epidermal cells in childhood, higher elasticity of tissue, a special disposition toward "rashiness" as well as exudation and bulla formation. In addition apocrine glands become active mostly at the time of puberty. Further there are many distinctive dermatoses such as the childhood exanthems and mycoses of the hairy scalp, as well as many genodermatoses which have greatest impact in childhood. One glaring error is noted: cutis hyperelastica or Ehlers-Danlos syndrome is confused with cutis laxa (generalized elastolysis), which is spectacularly different from the former disease. The newer understanding of dyslipoidoses, inspired by Frederickson and Lees, is not considered. Neither is there a description of the newer classification of the ichthyoses, as initiated by Frost and Van Scott. The definition of the phakomatoses is beclouded by omission of the fact that these syndromes of anomalies perforce have eye components. On the other hand, this reviewer learned that kwashiorkor means "red boy". The leopard syndrome of Gorlin is omitted from the syndromes with lentigines. It should be emphasized however that these aberrations are unimportant; the book is remarkably inexpensive for a color atlas of this high degree of quality, a special need is fulfilled, and the sophistication of the text will appeal to the expert in dermatology. Pediatricians should find the book invaluable. All those interested in skin diseases would want to have the book, I would imagine. Treatment is not considered, which is just as well, as such information can be found elsewhere.

REES B. REES, M.D.

HANDBOOK OF OCULAR THERAPEUTICS AND PHARMACOLOGY—3rd Edition—Philip P. Ellis, M.D., Professor and Head, Division of Ophthalmology, Department of Surgery, University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver; and Donn L. Smith, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Department of Pharmacology, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. (63103), 1969. 251 pages, \$10.75.

This handbook is clearly written and succeeds in the effort made to "present in a concise form the basic considerations of current ocular therapy and pharmacology".

The authors have wisely not attempted to cover all aspects of therapy, but have provided an adequately detailed ready reference for the ophthalmologist, general practitioner, and resident physician. The third edition contains new tables and dosage schedules for therapeutic